

Twinbrook Commons: Pulling Into Rockville

For many years, residents have wondered about the future of the properties surrounding the ideally-located Twinbrook Metro Station. After more than three hours of presentations, comments from the public and suggestions from the Mayor and Council at a January meeting, the future of what will be called “Twinbrook Commons” is a bit clearer.

“We have a great opportunity to get people out of their cars through this project,” said Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo, who suggested that bike lockers and short-term car rentals be included in the plans to make taking Metro to-and-from Rockville an even more desirable way to commute. “We are hoping this will become a model community for the entire Washington area.”

However, there are still some issues that must be addressed by the property

owner, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (better known as Metro), and its private developer, the JBG Companies, before the City agrees to annex approximately 17 acres of property and have the entire 27-acre project developed under a single plan as part of Rockville.

About 10 acres of the overall site is already in the City, most of that on the west side of the rail tracks. The land under consideration to be annexed is east of the rail tracks.

The proposed Twinbrook Commons would be a mixed-use development that emphasizes the impact of living close to a public transportation source such as Metrorail. It includes about 1,700 multi-family residences, 220,000 square feet of retail space, 325,000 square feet of office space and approximately 1,150 parking spaces.



The planned Twinbrook Village Green in the new Twinbrook Commons development will serve as a meeting place and will include a pavillion where Rockville residents can see performances of local community groups.

One item that particularly concerned members of the Mayor and Council was that the current plan calls for all residences to be rentals. The Mayor and Council emphasized that they would like to see revised plans that would make a significant portion of

the residences owner-occupied. Some residents expressed concern about the maximum height of some buildings, which are proposed to be approximately 170 feet (about 16 stories). Other concerns centered on the impact the

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project would have on traffic, school capacity and City services—such as the need for additional police. The record for all comments on the project will remain open through Monday, Feb. 7. From that point, the Mayor and Council will study alterations to the plan before considering approval of the request for annexation and the project’s preliminary development plan.[RR](#)



LIVING THE DREAM...(left to right) Daniel C. Chou of Rockville High School; Tanya N. Lofton of Thomas S. Wootton High School; and David E. L'Heureux, a retired Senior Foreign Services Officer stand next to a picture of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the 33rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration on Monday, Jan. 17. Chou and Lofton received the 2005 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Award, which recognized their outstanding efforts to help advance Dr. King's goals and dreams. L'Heureux received the 2005 F. Michael Taff Award for his extraordinary voluntary service as a dedicated human rights activist. The celebration was sponsored by the Mayor and Council of Rockville and the Rockville Human Rights Commission.

Hootie and the Blowfish Swim to Rockville For Hometown Holidays Concert in May

“Hootie and the Blowfish” really want to be with Rockville on Memorial Day Weekend. And the Mayor and Council in January made it a reality by unanimously approving a contract for the nationally-known band to be the headline act of the City’s 17th annual Hometown Holidays celebration.

Hootie and the Blowfish, who burst upon the national music scene in the 1990s with the hit, “I Only Want to Be With You,” will be the chief entertainment on Saturday night, May 28, during the weekend of festivities that has become a widely popular Washington area tradition.

“They have a great name, people know their music, it is good for all ages and they have a strong local base,” said Mike Henry, Rockville’s coordinator of



Hootie and the Blowfish will play live in the City on May 28

special events. The concert will be free to the public and is expected to be part of a crowd of more than 30,000 that comes to Rockville Town Center to enjoy a variety of activities. Over the previous 16 years, Rockville’s annual Hometown Holidays celebration has become the biggest Memorial Day event in the metropolitan Washington area. However, with plans looming to develop a residential and

retail complex on the parking lot across from the Regal Cinema / restaurant row on East Montgomery Street—the site of the Hometown Holidays concerts—the City is intent on making the 17th edition of the event one to truly remember. “We knew it would be the last time we had this much space to put on a concert this size,” said Henry. Further details of Hometown Holidays activities will be announced in the coming months, but this year’s event is scheduled to include an extensive arts show; the Taste of Rockville featuring food of many local restaurants; children’s activities; and the bicycle tour “Ride for Rockville.” On Monday, May 30, the City will host the 61st annual Rockville Memorial Day Parade.[RR](#) — Amy Orndorff

February’s Best of Rockville

Feb. 4

“The Finest’s” 10th Annual African-American Heritage Production. 7:30 p.m. at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children. Box office: 240-314-8690. www.rockville.md.gov/theatre

Feb. 12

Winter Beach Walk Trip. Take a stroll and observe the wintering birds at Matoaka Beach along the Chesapeake Bay in St. Leonard, Md. 12 noon-7 p.m. Ages 18 and up. \$30 residents/ \$38 non-residents. 240-314-8641

Feb. 27

Rockville Concert Band 3 p.m. Free. Tickets required. “Heatherwood Harp Ensemble” at 2 p.m. in the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre’s lobby. Box Office: 240-314-8690.

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Rockville Channel Reminds Teens Driving Can Be Deadly

In response to community concern about fatal accidents involving teenagers, The Rockville Channel (Cable Channel 11) will air an encore presentation of its “Every 15 Minutes” Program in February.

The program will air throughout the month at the following times: Tuesdays at 11 p.m., Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., 5 p.m. and 11:30 p.m., Thursdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m., Fridays at 11 p.m. and Saturdays at 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Every year, The Rockville Channel produces a special program recapping the events of the two-day Every 15 Minutes Program, which is organized by the City of Rockville Police for local Rockville high schools each April.

“Every 15 Minutes” aims to educate students about driving responsibly and focuses on the ef-



Richard Montgomery High School students view the deadly effects of drunk driving at a staged “accident” scene.

fects of drunk-driving accidents and reducing teen drinking and driving. High school students experience first-hand the effects of drunk-driving, including a live reenactment of a crash scene involving their peers and police, fire and rescue units.

This year’s project will take place at Rockville High School in April. To volunteer for the next “Every 15 Minutes,” contact Program Coordinator Diane Wilkins, Victim Advocate in the Rockville Police Department, at 240-314-8917. [RR](#)

Rockville Ready for Winter Storms

Although this year’s winter temperatures have been milder than in past years, the City is still preparing for any significant snowfall that may occur.

Conditions leading to a “snow emergency” are significant, deep snow. The City Manager may declare a “snow emergency” and will announce the status through local media, via the City’s Web (www.rockvillemd.gov) and on The Rockville Channel (Cable Channel 11).

The “snow emergency” ordinance states:

- Residents with driveways must park all vehicles there
- Residents without driveways, or who have more vehicles than will fit in the driveway, may park on the even-numbered side of the street only
- In courts or cul-de-sacs, where house numbers are not even on one side of the street and odd on the other, parking is allowed only on the left side of the streets as one enters the cul-de-sac or court
- No parking is allowed in the “bulb” of the cul-de-sac or

- court
- After the snowfall ends and the odd-numbered side of the street is cleared, vehicles must be moved to the odd-numbered side to allow plows to clear the even-numbered side
- A fine of \$100 for a “snow emergency” parking violation will be incurred
- The City may remove or impound cars improperly parked

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 240-314-8500.

SNOW SHOVELING REGULATIONS

Snow must be removed from all sidewalks, steps, driveways, parking spaces and the paved right-of-way sidewalk immediately fronting or abutting a property, including access ramps and curb cuts designed for use by people with disabilities.

Snow and ice removal must occur within 24 hours if the snowfall is less than 3 inches and within 48 hours if it surpasses 3 inches. Fines may be imposed if the ordinance is not

followed. Call 240-314-8330 for more information.

INCLEMENT WEATHER UPDATES

The City of Rockville announces inclement weather status through several outlets.

To find out whether a City meeting or recreation program has been cancelled due to the winter weather, always check the City’s Web site (www.rockvillemd.gov), The Rockville Channel (Cable Channel 11) and the following radio and television stations for Rockville City government closings and delays:

Radio: WTOP (1500 AM, 820 AM, 107.7 FM and 103.5 FM); WARW (94.7 FM); WRQX (107.3 FM); WFRE (99.9 FM and 930 AM).

TV: WRC-TV (NBC Channel 4); WTTG-Fox TV (Channel 5); WJLA-TV (ABC Channel 7 and News Channel 8); and WUSA-TV (CBS Channel 9).

The Rockville Recreation Inclement Weather hotline number is 240-314-5020. [RR](#)

Historic Look Proposed for New Moore Drive Complex

Rockville Housing Enterprises (RHE), the City’s independent agency for public housing, and private developer Mid-City Urban have proposed building a community with a historic “Craftsman” look to replace the Lincoln Terrace public housing complex on Moore Drive in Lincoln Park.

The new development of 60 total units (53 town houses and seven single-family homes) will replace the 65-unit Lincoln Terrace complex, whose last tenants were relocated in

December. The new development, which will be composed entirely of owner-occupied units, will take an innovative approach with 20 to be sold at market rate, 22 to be sold as moderately-priced units and 18 to be subsidized units (MPDUs).

RHE and Mid-City Urban on Jan. 10 presented to the Mayor and Council design elevations for the residences that reflect the Craftsman style of architecture that was popular from about 1905-1930 and were

evident in the surrounding neighborhood.

The Mayor and Council said they wanted to keep the project on track for a possible groundbreaking by the middle of this year, but wanted the City’s Historic District Commission (HDC) to review the elevations before the next steps in the approval process. It is expected the HDC will offer comments by the end of February and the plans will then go to the Planning Commission for a recommendation. [RR](#)

Focus on ADVENTURES IN REFUSE



Rockville Sanitation Supervisor, Ray Foreman, leaves a note to residents who left piles of carpet out with regulation trash. Oversized items like carpet require specially arranged pickups.

Rockville has many programs that affect the lives of residents. On a regular basis, “Focus On” will take an introspective look at these programs and detail the impact they have for City residents.

In his 37 years working for Rockville’s Division of Refuse and Recycling, Ray Foreman has seen some incredible objects left at the curb as refuse. There was a motorcycle, an occasional car engine and the entire front end of a pick-up truck. The gutted remains of kitchens and four-foot high piles of carpet are among the things residents have expected refuse collectors to lift and place in the back of a regular City trash truck.

And then there was the bag filled with animal waste, which after being placed in the back of the truck by unsuspecting sanitation employees, exploded when the grinders began to compact it.

“Some people think that they can leave anything by the curb and it will be taken away,” said Foreman, who is now the sanitation supervisor. “The reality is that some things can not be taken on regular trash days, and even on the one day a week we have special pickups, not everything is eligible to be removed by our crews. We just want everyone to know what the regu-

lations say about refuse and recycling.”

The City publishes a guide to the regulations and they also are available on the City Web site at www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/refuseguide.

Foreman said Rockville works hard to make sure everyone is aware of the regulations to help improve the efficiency of the operations for the benefit of all citizens. And in some cases, violations cause injuries to workers.

When a violation does occur, refuse collectors leave a bright orange or yellow tag on the resident’s doorknob, letting them know of the problem and how it can be corrected.

An often misunderstood regulation calls for animal waste to be flushed away after being picked up by owners. It should not be placed in with the trash.

“A lot of people put it in a plastic bag and put that bag in another bag mixed with the trash,” said Foreman. “We try to stress that animal waste needs to be flushed down the commode.”

For more information about refuse and recycling collection services, see Rockville’s online Refuse and Recycling Guide or call the Department of Public Works at 240-314-8568. [RR](#)
— Mary Robbins

Ways to Help Your Refuse Workers:

- Be sure to put items for recycling out on the correct day
- Use containers of the correct size. 32-gallon containers are the maximum size allowed
- Do not place oversized items or hazardous materials in with regular collections. Call 240-314-8568 to arrange for special pick-ups
- Be sure to place all trash to be collected in one area
- Bamboo branches are to be put out with regular trash and must be tied together for easier handling
- All brush set out for collection must be less than five feet in length
- Newspaper and mixed paper to be recycled should either be tied in bundles or placed in biodegradable paper bags. Do not place it in plastic bags
- Grass clippings to be recycled must be placed in biodegradable paper bags or unbagged in plastic containers of 32 gallons or less. Do not place it in plastic bags
- Be sure that there is no water or ice in the bottom of the container holding the trash or items to be recycled
- Cardboard and cardboard boxes will only be collected for recycling if they are smaller than three feet wide by three feet long. They must be flattened and separated from other recycling
- Gates leading to refuse containers must be unlocked and paths cleared of snow and ice on collection days
- Animal waste should be flushed away. It is not permissible to place it in with trash
- Pet owners must have their dogs under control if workers need to enter the property to make collections. If dogs are running loose, collectors will not enter the property and cannot make collections

Duffin Sees Lincoln Park History with Unique Focus

Blind Lifelong Resident Ensures That Neighborhood's Past Will Be Preserved

It has been 30 years since 57-year-old Lincoln Park resident Sharyn Duffin set her sights on documenting the history of her beloved neighborhood.

However, over the past three decades, Duffin has viewed the history of her section of East Rockville much differently than her neighbors.

A bout of spinal meningitis left Duffin blind since high school. Ever since, among Duffin's passions has been to record the history of Lincoln Park. Her neighbors in the tight-knit community have helped her in many ways, including those that come and read stories of all kinds to her.

Now, Duffin's determination to record Lincoln Park's history is more important than ever.

The historically black community that was once home to freed slaves was first documented in 1891. It existed just outside the Rockville City limits until its annexation in 1949.

Over the past few years, Rockville's future has begun to encroach on the neighborhood that has seen little change for many years. The new Town Center lies to the west, just across the railroad tracks and Rockville Pike. Even closer is the Stonestreet Avenue industrial corridor that is on the verge of a major renovation.

Those steps likely will lead to some changes in Lincoln Park, but Duffin is devoted to making sure its history lives forever. The City of Rockville strongly supports her efforts.

As the bicentennial in 1976 approached, Duffin had four high school students volunteer to read to

her the information they found on the history of Lincoln Park. From there, she began to compile a history that was submitted to the Afro-American Bicentennial, a group con-

tracted to identify sites of black history in the Washington area.

"A lot of us who have stayed in this area are descendents of slaves," said Duffin, herself the great great granddaughter of a former slave to S.T. Stonestreet. "They had to work hard to get that and they should be remembered and recognized."

Since her first efforts to be Lincoln Park's historian, Peerless Rockville—the organization dedicated to preserving the City's overall history—has taken a special interest in Duffin.



Leo Orbach, a 51-year Rockville resident, reads to Sharyn Duffin a "Washington Post" article about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s letter from a Birmingham Jail. Duffin, who is sight-impaired, has been assisting local historians with preserving the history of the Lincoln Park community.

"Even though there is a lot of information that exists about Lincoln Park, we always come back to what Sharyn wrote," said Eileen McGuckian, the executive director of Peerless

Rockville and a long-time friend of Duffin. "She is the keeper of the history."

Duffin has come to realize the importance of her work. She realizes construction is all around Lincoln Park. She already feels the evolution that looms ahead.

"Since the early 1970s, we have had a huge transition of people moving in who have had no connection [to Lincoln Park]," Duffin said.

In an effort to archive the

history of Lincoln Park and protect historic buildings, Rockville preservation planner Judy Christensen approached Duffin with the idea of submitting Lincoln Park for a City preservation plan. She also thought the community should seek recognition from the National Registrar of Historic Places.

In conjunction with the Lincoln Park Community Preservation Committee, Christensen has spent the past six months developing a proposal to protect certain

buildings and streets by demonstrating their importance in history. She intends to turn the information into a book.

Through a program on her computer that reads emails aloud, Duffin has been able to review documents and suggestions that come up in the Lincoln Park citizens meetings, edit them and send them back to Christensen.

Christensen relies on Duffin's help to proofread, correct names and dates and identify other people who might have knowledge of the history of Lincoln Park.

Duffin said she has relied heavily on discussions with older residents, but she has been less successful gaining information from people her own age. She thinks she knows why. "You don't consider your own life 'history,'" she said. **RR**

— Amy Orndorff



The bake sale was a popular part of this year's Senior Bazaar.

Senior Center Bazaar An Overwhelming Success

More than \$5,000 was raised by Rockville Seniors Inc. (RSI) for the Rockville Senior Center as more than 3,000 people attended the 21st Annual RSI Holiday Bazaar on Dec. 4. Visitors came to browse the crafts, plants, computers, homemade food and thrift items displayed by 31 vendors throughout the center.

"We look forward to the event all year," said Jill Hall, supervisor of the Senior Center. "It is a great time with a lot of hidden treasures."

The daylong event culminated in the raffle of gift certificates donated by 14 local businesses; a handmade quilt sewn by the Senior Center's quilt making group "The Piecemakers;" and \$500 cash, the largest grand prize ever offered at the Bazaar.

RSI is a nonprofit group made up of Senior Center members whose goal is to improve the center through fundraising activities. More than 60 volunteers offered their

time to the bazaar by baking food and working as cashiers throughout the building.

"I am very proud of the way the center members get so involved in helping with this event," said RSI Ways and Means Chair Betty Briscoe. "It is a large undertaking, but it is important to the Center."

The \$5,000 collected at the Holiday Bazaar will be used for purchasing needed items such as a new light in front of the building, furniture for the center and supplies for the variety of programs the center offers.

Though RSI sponsors fundraising activities that occur throughout the year, such as weekly bingo on Wednesdays and the operation of the gift and thrift shops, the Holiday Bazaar is the single largest one-day fundraiser RSI presents.

The next RSI bazaar will be the Spring Bazaar on Saturday, May 21, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Senior Center. **RR**

— Amy Orndorff

New Meters in Twinbrook

The City has installed an additional 95 meters in the Twinbrook area. The meters are on Lewis Avenue (industrial area), Halpine (between Ardennes Avenue and Pier Drive) and Ardennes Avenue (between Halpine and the City line).

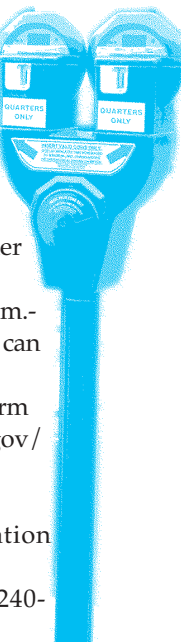
The meters are in effect from 6 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except City and State holidays. The cost per hour is 25 cents and the total cost for the 12-hour period is \$3.

Quarters and prepaid meter cards can be used at these new meters and meters installed on the west side of the Twinbrook Metro station, North Stonestreet Avenue (Rockville Metro Sta-

tion). The meter cards act like a credit card and eliminate the need to carry quarters.

Meter cards can be purchased in any amount from the cashier in City Hall, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Or, meter cards can be purchased by mail. Download an order form at www.rockvillemd.gov/e-gov/Parking-Meter-Card.pdf.

For more information contact, Captain Michael England at 240-314-8913. **RR**





Dozens of volunteer tax preparers will be helping residents with their tax forms at a new location this year. The program will be operated by the Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center at 332 West Edmonston Drive in Rockville.

Tax Assistance Program Moves To New Rockville Location

Rockville's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), which has provided free help in tax preparation for low-income residents and senior citizens for almost three decades, will have a new home this year.

The program will now be incorporated into the tax preparation assistance program operated through the Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center at 332 West Edmonston Drive in Rockville. The program will provide income tax assistance to all Rockville residents whose gross annual income was \$35,000 or less in 2004.

More than 30 volunteer

tax preparers, including many who worked with the VITA program in the past, will be helping at the new location.

The program will continue to operate on Tuesday nights—the traditional night VITA operated under the organization of Rockville's Department of Neighborhood and Community Services—from 5-9 p.m. In addition, preparers will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays. This schedule will be in place through Thursday, April 14.

The new coordinator of the tax preparation program is Susie Carpio, who is fluent in Spanish. She was proud of the staff of volunteers that has

been assembled, noting that most are Certified Public Accountants who will take time out from the most hectic time of the year in their own businesses to help in the Rockville-based program.

"Our goal this year is to help about 400 people prepare their taxes," said Carpio. "Our program will be able to file returns electronically for anyone who wants that done. This will mean people will receive refunds quicker."

Advance appointments are required to have taxes prepared. For more information on the program or to make an appointment, call 301-279-1035. **RR**

Nueva ubicación del Programa de Asistencia Tributaria

Voluntario de Ayuda para el Impuesto sobre la Renta de Rockville (VITA), que ha proporcionado excelente asistencia gratuita durante casi 30 años para que los residentes de bajos ingresos y las personas de edad de la Ciudad preparen su declaración del impuesto sobre la renta, tendrá un hogar nuevo este año.

VITA se incorporó al programa de asistencia para preparar la declaración tributaria que funciona en el Centro de Recursos y Referencia para la Atención de Niños del Condado de Montgomery, ubicado en 332 West Edmonston Drive en Rockville. El programa proporciona asistencia para preparar la declaración del impuesto sobre la renta a todos los residentes de Rockville cuyos ingresos

anuales brutos fueron de \$35,000 o menos en 2004. Más de 30 preparadores voluntarios ayudarán en la nueva ubicación, inclusive muchos de quienes trabajaron con el programa de VITA en el pasado. El programa seguirá funcionando los martes a la noche de 5 a 9 p.m. —el VITA tradicional de los martes a la noche también funcionaba de 5 a 9 p.m. en el Departamento de Vecindario y Servicios Comunitarios de Rockville. Además, los preparadores estarán disponibles los miércoles y jueves de 10 a.m. a 2 p.m. Este calendario estará vigente hasta el jueves 14 de abril de 2005.

La nueva coordinadora del programa es la señora Susie Carpio; ella domina el español y está orgullosa del personal de voluntarios reunido: la mayoría

son contadores públicos que tomarán su tiempo en la época del año más recargada de tareas en sus propios negocios para ayudar en el programa de Rockville.

Carpio dijo: "Nuestra meta para este año es ayudar a que casi 400 personas preparen sus impuestos. Nuestro programa permite presentar las declaraciones en forma electrónica a quienes lo deseen. Esto significa que esas personas recibirán más rápido sus reembolsos".

Es necesario concertar citas por adelantado para obtener ayuda en la preparación de los impuestos. Para obtener más información sobre el programa o para hacer una cita, llamar al 301-279-1035. **RR**

— Translated by
Victoria Imas-Duchovney

Bridal Expo Engages at Glenview on Jan. 30

Every newly engaged couple wants its wedding to be special and unique. And for the sixth year in the row, Rockville's Glenview Mansion is offering brides, grooms, family members, wedding planners—anyone planning a big event—a one-stop event where they get new ideas and information about the many services available to make their dreams a reality.

The Glenview Mansion Bridal Expo will be held on Sunday, Jan. 30, from 12 noon-4 p.m. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Call 240-314-8660 for details or to reserve a ticket.

More than two dozen vendors will be on hand to discuss ideas and prices for nearly any item or service a couple could want. View colorful floral arrangements and taste-test everything from appetizers to cakes. Sit in a limo or antique car and feel the fabric, lace and beadwork of a potential wedding dress. Or spend the afternoon scouring sample invitations or pouring over photographs of a potential photographer. This affair offers the unique opportunity to have one-on-one conversations with many of the area's top wedding service providers.

Along with vendors, Glenview Mansion itself also will be on display and can be viewed as a potential wedding site.

Glenview is a pillared, neo-classical, 19th century home, nestled in the 153-acre Rockville Civic Center Park. Brides throughout the metropolitan Washington region have been reaping the benefits from the expertise of the



A sample wedding cake from the 2004 Bridal Expo.

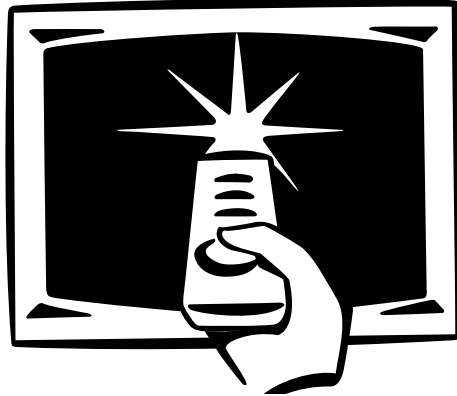
mansion's event coordinating staff.

Susann Palamara coordinates the Bridal Expo to not only assist future Glenview brides with planning their affairs, but also those throughout the Washington D.C. region.

The following vendors are expected to attend the event: A Glorious Occasion, Bride's Day Maryland, Cuisine Catering, Custom Cake Design, Die Blumenbinderin, Eric and Company, "I Do" for Brides Magazine, Journey's Unlimited, Kyms International, Larry Glatt Photographer, Marco Polo Caterers, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Maryland DJ, Matters of Taste, Popp Culture, Occasional Cakes, LLC, On Q'ue Photography, Photography by Win, Putting on the Ritz, Regal Limousine Service Inc., Southern Living At Home, The Final Detail, Travel Dimension, LLC and Woodfin Suites.

For more information about the Sixth Annual Bridal Expo, visit www.rockville.md.gov/glenview/bridalexpo/index.html. For a virtual tour of Glenview Mansion and to learn about rental rates, go www.rockville.md.gov/tours/glenview/glenviewtour/index.html. **RR**

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INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the City Government at Work

Rockville Regional Library Booked for Construction

Construction will be underway soon for the new Rockville Regional Library, which will be one of the prime anchors of the Rockville Town Square project in the City's redeveloped Town Center. The construction schedule calls for the library, which will be the largest in the Montgomery County system, to open in summer 2006.

The project was scheduled to get underway with a groundbreaking ceremony on Jan. 24 at the ongoing construction site near Beall Avenue (between North Washington Street and Route 355). Montgomery County Executive Douglas Duncan and Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo were to be among the speakers.

"This new library is a demonstration of the great cooperation between Montgomery County and the City of Rockville governments," said Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo. "As the City's mayor, I see the new Rockville Regional Library as one of the notable anchors of our future Town Center. As a father, I see it as a place that will help shape the future of my children."

The library will cost approximately \$26.3 million. Montgomery County is taking pride in the many assets the library will hold for people with special needs.

The front of the library will face the public plaza of the mixed-

use Rockville Town Square, which is the major portion of Phase I of the overall Rockville Town Center rejuvenation envisioned by the Rockville's Mayor and Council.

RD Rockville, LLC is the developer of the 12.5-acre Rockville Town Square project that will cost more than \$350 million. It will incorporate the library and a public town plaza as part of a mix that also will include about 648 premiere residences; about 170,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space to be owned by Federal Realty Investment Trust; and three public and one private parking garage with about 1,900 spaces.

The library will be about 71,500 square feet, plus 12,700 square feet for library administration and another 14,700 square feet of office space for other county agencies. It will hold approximately 140,000 volumes from its present site on the corner of Maryland Avenue and Vinson Street. An additional 60,000 volumes will be purchased over a three-year period. There will be two large meeting rooms available for public use and 60 accessible computers.

Plans call for a new district court to be built on the site of the current library on the block surrounded by Maryland Route 28, Maryland Avenue and Vinson Street. **RR**



Representatives from Fallsmead Elementary School were honored by the Rockville Mayor and Council in January for the students' outstanding support of the 2004 Holiday Drive.

Holiday Drive 2004

Rockville's Mayor and Council recognized the dozens of businesses and individuals that made the 2004 Rockville Holiday Drive a resounding success at their first general session of the new year in January. Mayor Larry Giammo particularly noted the significant contributions of students to this year's drive.

Students from local middle schools and high schools conducted food and toy drives to collect items for Thanksgiving food baskets distributed to families in need and to stock a "Secret Toy Shop." At the shop, parents could choose donated toys for each of their children and receive gift cards for their teens.

The students at Richard Montgomery High School collected more than 6,000 cans of food. Students at Robert Frost Middle School organized a Turkey Trot to raise \$1,600 and collected 1,000 cans of food. Students at Christ Episcopal School donated food gift cards totaling \$1,250. Students at Fallsmead Elementary School donated 400 toys.

A total of 1,539 holiday baskets were distributed to needy families and senior citizens in November and December through the Holiday Drive. This significant gathering of food would not have been possible this year without C. J. O'Shaughnessy Realtors, who donated warehouse space to store the food before distribution.

Rockville's families also significantly supported each other as 90 of the families receiving assistance in December had volunteer sponsors who provided food, personal gifts and other needs. Family sponsors included Faith United Methodist Church, whose members provided toys and gift cards for 43 families. Individual departments at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital helped fulfill some of the families' "wish lists."

Monetary contributions to-

taling nearly \$17,000 have been received from more than 100 businesses, organizations and individuals. The Holiday Drive received substantial financial donations from the Venable Foundation, Realty Capital Partners and the Bakery, Confectionary, and Tobacco Workers International Union.

Many other individuals and groups donated time and talent to make this year's Holiday Drive so successful. Mount Calvary Baptist Church provided more than 160 Thanksgiving baskets to Rockville families. Members of the Basket Brigade, who are individuals that live in the North Farm community, pro-



A student from the Richard Montgomery Somos program volunteers to help set-up the December toy drive.

vided and delivered 55 Thanksgiving baskets to Rockville residents. St. Elizabeth's Church provided 75 baskets to the Latino Outreach Program of Community Ministries of Rockville. Rockville United Methodist Church donated the proceeds from one of its coffee house events to the Holiday Drive.

After providing invaluable assistance for the City's Thanksgiving distribution, employees of Lydian Wealth Management joined other volunteers in serving as escorts for the Secret Toy Shop. They also brought gift paper and supplies so that parents could choose to have toys wrapped for their children. **RR**



Mayor Larry Giammo



Councilmember Robert E. (Bob) Dorsey



Councilmember John F. Hall, Jr.



Councilmember Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember Anne M. Robbins

Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on specified Mondays (unless otherwise noted) when there is a General Session or Public Hearing. Call the City Clerk's Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, the Councilmember scheduled for February is:

- **Tuesday, Feb. 22:** Bob Dorsey

Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel (TRC 11), and are available on streaming video at: www.rockvillemd.gov. Citizens may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Citizens Forum" portion at most general session meetings. All meetings are subject to change.

- **Feb. 7 (Mon.)** Worksession (Senior Citizens Commission), 5:30 p.m. General Session, 7 p.m.
- **Feb. 22 (Tues.)** Worksession (FY06 Budget), 7 p.m.

Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Environment Commission (two)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (one at-large)
- Human Rights Commission (two)
- Rockville Scholarship Foundation (one)
- Rockville Seniors, Inc. (one)
- Rockville Sister City Corp. (two)
- Traffic and Transportation (one)

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.



ROCKVILLE'S FINEST... Mayor Larry Giammo (far left) and Police Chief Terry Treschuck (far right) stand with three of Rockville's newest police officers. Left to right: Karl Piptt, Jonathan Berry and Robert Hardesty, were sworn at a City Hall ceremony in January.

FY06 Budget Dates

Feb. 22	Budget Worksession
April 4 ...	Proposed budget presented to Mayor and Council
April 18	Budget Public Hearing
April 25	Budget Public Hearing
May 2	Budget Worksession
May 16	Budget Worksession
May 23	Optional Budget Worksession
June 6	Budget Adoption

“What Do You Know About Jim Crow?” To Be Performed by “The Finest!” On Feb. 4

What do you know about Jim Crow?

If you answered “Not much,” be sure to attend The Finest! youth performance troupe’s 10th annual African American Heritage Production on Saturday, Feb. 4, at 7:30 p.m. at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

Written by the Rockville Recreation Programs Supervisor Karen Rawlins, the play entitled “What Do You Know About Jim Crow?” seeks to educate people of all ages about the life of African-Americans during segregation from the 1870s through the 1950s.

The idea came to Rawlins a year ago during a discussion with the troupe.

“When we were talking to the children about the Jim Crow era, they didn’t know much about it,” said Rawlins. “That is what sparked me to write the play.”

The Finest! is a group of



The Finest! rehearse for “What Do You Know About Jim Crow?” the 10th annual African-American Heritage Production on Feb. 4

about 30 students living in the Rockville area ranging in age from 6 to 18 who audition twice a year for plays performed at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

In addition to putting on the annual African American Heritage production, The Finest! members receive training in dancing, singing and acting.

To put on a play of this length the troupe, as well as Rawlins and choreographer Kashi Barrett, have spent

countless hours in after-school rehearsals.

“I think it is important to support the children. They have worked very hard,” Rawlins said.

The troupe received national recognition earlier this year when it was invited to perform last year’s African American Heritage Production play “A Change Gon’ Come” in Atlanta and St. Petersburg, Fla.

Many of the actors in last year’s play will return for “What Do You Know About Jim Crow?” including Sadele Amair, Hakima Payne, Varmonica Thomas and Moyston (Randy) Henry. Henry will serve as the embodiment of the Jim Crow icon.

“It is important for history to be known and understood,” said Rawlins. “This play promises to be entertaining as well as informative.” **RR**

— Amy Orndorff



More students than ever participated in the 2004 Rockville Cheerleading Camp last summer. The strong demand for the class led Summer Camps organizers to add another week of pom-pom fun for 2005.

Kids Just Want to Have Fun: What’s New In Summer Camps

Whether it comes to sports practices, music lessons or the mountain of homework kids tackle every night, sometimes their busy schedules during the school year can mean they miss out on one important thing—having fun.

In February, Rockville residents can make sure their kids not only have fun this summer but also learn a new skill and even make new friends. Registration for the 2005 Department of Recreation and Parks Summer Camps—themed “Kids Just Want to Have Fun”—begins Thursday, Feb. 10, for residents and Thursday, Feb. 24, for non-residents. Residents should have received booklets detailing camp options at the end of January. In addition, the information and registration is available on www.rockville.md.gov (click on RockEnroll) and at City Hall.

For more than 30 years Rockville summer camps have offered children a variety of fun and interesting day camps where they can meet friends and learn in a safe, structured environment. Whether it is a sports camp or a craft camp, a computer camp or a nature camp, there is a camp that fits most interests.

“It is important for kids to go have a good time and

make new friends in a fun and relaxed atmosphere,” said Recreation Programs Supervisor Jan Golden.

New this year is a youth fitness camp, a merger of the former Odyssey and Quest camps, and new options for camps around the July 4 holiday.

Also new is the Kid-Netic camp, structured toward establishing healthy habits to last a lifetime. Campers will explore fitness activities that may include swimming, karate, yoga, hiking and rock climbing. They also will participate in traditional camp activities such as arts and crafts. Healthy nutritional habits are emphasized through games and snacks.

With flexibility in mind, the recreation department is introducing a new option for the Kamparama, Kaleidoscope, Creative Crafts and Multi-Sports and Tennis & Games camps. Each will now be offered in one-week or two-week sessions during the session that includes the July 4 holiday (session 2). Previously, these camps were offered only for two-week periods.

Due to increasing popularity, a second week of cheerleading camp will be offered. **RR**

— Amy Orndorff

Citizen’s Police Academy Spots Available in Spring

How closely does the City of Rockville Police daily operations mirror television shows like *Law & Order*, *NYPD Blue* and *Crime Scene Investigation*?

Find out by participating in the spring Citizen’s Police Academy — a free, 10-week introduction to the Rockville Police. Classes will meet every Tuesday evening from 6:30-9 p.m. March 1-May 3.

The City offers the academy program annually, but this year’s participants will be able to learn even more about how the City works with county and state law enforcement officials. Citizens also will be treated to the first demonstration of Rockville’s

new canine unit to academy members and learn more about the use of deadly force in police work.

“Many of the most popular television shows today focus on crime investigation or law enforcement, but quite often, they don’t give people a true idea of what police work is like,” said Jan Seilhamer, community services police officer. “The Citizen’s Academy is a realistic introduction to what officers do each day and gives citizens a chance to get to know members of the police and feel comfortable with us in the community.”

The 10-week introductory program covers topics such as

patrol operations, criminal law, deadly force, crime scene investigation and more. A highlight of the program is a trip to the National Institutes of Health fire arms training simulator, where participants can react to “shoot/don’t shoot” situations and learn how accurate their aim is.

All participants who complete the program are invited to a special graduation ceremony and will receive a certificate of completion and a t-shirt.

Registration for the spring Citizen’s Police Academy is ongoing until March 1. For more information or to register contact Seilhamer at 240-314-8922. **RR**

Families Show How Sweet Love Is At Twinbrook Valentine’s Day Dance

While couples throughout the Washington metropolitan area celebrate Valentine’s Day, the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center is inviting families to show their appreciation for each other at a heart-themed dance party on Friday, Feb. 11, from 7-9 p.m.

The annual Twinbrook Valentine’s Day Dance has brought moms, dads, brothers and sisters together for a fun evening for the past two years.

Favorite activities such as a



DJ spinning dance music, Valentine’s Day Bingo and Valentine’s Day carnival games will return with prizes given away throughout the night. There also will be a craft table where children will be able to make a valentine for a

loved one.

“It’s a really fun evening and a way for families to celebrate Valentine’s Day together and meet other families in the neighborhood,” said Martha Coester, supervisor of the Twinbrook Community Center.

Twinbrook Community Center members and residents throughout the area are invited. Admission to the dance will be \$1 per person. Call 240-314-8830 for more information. **RR**

— Amy Orndorff

In Brief

Town Center Web Cam On the Air

Witness history in motion right from your computer by viewing the progress of Phase I of Town Center Construction through the lens of the City's online Web camera that is focused on the Rockville Town Square construction site.

The Web cam will follow the transformation from foundation preparation to the eventual mix of retail, restaurant and residential uses that will be anchored by the new Rockville Regional Library. The updates come from a camera positioned on top of The Victoria condominiums on East Middle Lane. It broadcasts live pictures of the construction site every 60 seconds to the City's Web site at www.rockvillemd.gov. The camera is operational 24 hours a day.

CALL **240-314-8116** FOR INFO

Emergency Assistance

Help a fellow Rockville resident by filling in the Rockville Emergency Assistance program blank at the top right hand corner of your quarterly utility bill.

The contribution will go into the fund that helps City residents who need assistance with housing, utilities or medical bills.

CALL **240-314-8310** FOR INFO

Senior Center Traffic Options Meeting

A public meeting to discuss traffic calming and new potential options for traveling to the Rockville Senior Center is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 16, from 7- 9 p.m. at the Senior Center Dining Room.

Representatives from the City's Recreation and Parks and Public Works departments will be available to answer questions and receive feedback from citizens.

For more information, contact Phil Bryan, superintendent of recreation, at pbryan@rockvillemd.gov, or Katherine Kelly, transportation planner, at kkelly@rockvillemd.gov.

CALL **240-314-8527** FOR INFO

24-Hour Utilities Hotline Is On-Call

If there is a problem with your water or sewage, your first call should always be to the City of Rockville.

The City, which has a 24-hour emergency number, will advise you whether it is a City issue or if you should contact a plumber. The 24-hour hotline is 240-314-8567.

CALL **240-314-8567** FOR INFO

Snow and Ice Can Give Clues to Energy Loss

Patches of melted snow on a roof and numerous icicles hanging on a house can indicate problems with energy loss and can cause roof damage.

The Rockville Commission on the Environment reminds residents that the winter months are a good time to identify if a house needs additional insulation. Melting and refreezing snow can damage roofs and gutters and the loss of heat can add up to higher energy bills. Installing more insulation will quickly pay for itself in lower heating bills, and will avoid costly repairs.

CALL **240-314-8212** FOR INFO

Rent Garden Plots

Community garden plots will be available starting Feb. 24 for Rockville residents and March 7 for non-residents.

The plots are 20 feet by 25 feet and are located at Wootton's Mill Park. The cost is \$40 for residents and \$50 for non-residents.

Call on those dates to reserve a plot. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/garden/index.html for additional information including an application form.

CALL **240-314-8660** FOR INFO



TIME FOR THE TUNES... *The Rockville Concert Band's winter concert will be performed at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 27. "Heatherwood Harp Ensemble" will perform a pre-concert at 2 p.m. in the theatre's lobby. The Concert Band's performances are always free and open to the public, but advance tickets are required.*

Good Neighbor Nominations

Applications are currently being accepted for the third annual Rockville "Good Neighbor Awards."

Rockville residents who after July 2004 made a significant contribution to the community, a neighbor or to the City in general may be eligible.

To make a nomination for an award, or for more information, contact Dwayne Jenkins at 240-314-8343 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/ncs/gnaward.htm

CALL **240-314-8343** FOR INFO

NBC 4's Liz Crenshaw at Senior Center Feb. 22

On Tuesday, Feb. 22, people of all ages, especially seniors, can have their consumer questions or concerns answered by NBC 4 Consumer Watch reporter Liz Crenshaw. This new, free event will be held at the Senior Center from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Register in advance by Feb. 12.

CALL **240-314-8800** FOR INFO

THE FINEST!

perform their 10th Annual African Heritage production. Friday, Feb. 4 at 7:30 p.m. at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre

CITY

1,13 MOBY Medical Clinic

Primary medical care to low-income, uninsured, working-poor and homeless people in Montgomery County. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. 301-493-2400

5 Porgy and Bess at the

Weinberg Trip The show at the classic theatre in Frederick will feature operatic singers from across the U.S. accompanied by a 14-piece band performing classics such as "Summertime" and "It Ain't Necessarily So." The cost includes theater ticket, transportation and leadership. 4-11:30 p.m. Ages 16 and up. \$73 RES/\$92 NR. 240-314-8641

11,25 MOBY Medical Clinic

Primary medical care to the low-income, uninsured, working-poor and homeless in Montgomery County. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Lincoln Park Community Recreation Center. 301-493-2400

12 Winter Beach Walk Trip The cost of the trip to the shores of the Chesapeake Bay includes leadership, transportation, fees and supper. 12 noon-7 p.m. Ages 18 and up. \$30 RES/\$38 NR. 240-314-8641

19 Off-Leash Dog Testing Tests to see if City dogs can be walked without a leash. Call to register as date is subject to change. 10 a.m. Swim Center Outdoor Entrance Parking Lot. 240-314-8930

23 Occupations in Rockville

Part of the Peerless Rockville 2005 Speaker Series. 7:30 p.m. Red Brick Courthouse in Town Center. 301-762-0096

ARTS

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville's Civic Center Park. Arts Hotline: 240-314-5006. Tickets may be purchased online at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre. Service charges apply.

february

calendar of events

RES. = Residents • NR. = Non Residents • MEM. = Member • NM. = Non Member

1 Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra Spring Auditions Call or e-mail Kathleen Moran for details on location and to schedule an audition time at 240-314-8682 or kmoran@rockville.md.gov

4 The Finest! 10th Annual African Heritage production. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children. Box office at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre: 240-314-8690

5 National Philharmonic Piano recital featuring works by Beethoven and Chopin performed by local teen prodigy Pallavi Mahidhara. 8 p.m. This event is sold out.

6-Mar. 1 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery The Korean American Artists Association of Washington, D.C. 30th Anniversary Exhibition. Collection of paintings, drawings and ceramics. Reception 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 6. Artist Talk 7:30 p.m. Feb. 17. Guided gallery tour Feb. 18 at 10 a.m. 240-314-8682

6 Glenview Mansion Sunday Afternoon Concert Series Bill Burke playing an eight-string guitar. Original compositions. 2-3 p.m. FREE. 240-314-8682

10-13,18-20 Victorian Lyric Opera Company presents "Mikado." Seniors may attend dress rehearsal on 10. 11, 12, 18, 19 performances at 8 p.m. 13, 20 performances at 2 p.m. Reserved seating. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for students (16 years and younger). 301-879-0220.

26 The Tamuritzans 8 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$30 (for the center section seats) and \$28 (for seats on either side). Children/Seniors (16 and under and/or 60+) \$28 (for seats in the center section) and \$26 (for seats on either side).

27 Rockville Concert Band 3 p.m. FREE. Tickets required. "Heatherwood Harp Ensemble" at 2 p.m. in the theater's lobby. Box Office: 240-314-8690.

27 2005 Rockville Student Art Show Students grades K-12. Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. Registration and delivery on Sunday, Feb. 27, from 2-4 p.m. For more information, call 240-314-8682

NATURE

All programs are at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Register online at www.rockville.md.gov or call 240-314-8770.

9 Tiny Tot Walk – Maple Sugarin' Take a syrup taste test and hike in the woods to a tapped tree to see how syrup is made. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Ages 1 1/2-2. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

9 Tyke Hike – Maple Sugarin' 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-5. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

13 Nature Appliqué Bring nature indoors by creating a nature-themed banner or pillow. Learn the basics of iron-on appliqué and create a fabric nature scene for Valentine's Day. Instructions and materials included. 2-3 p.m. Ages 10-over. \$12 RES/\$15 NR.

18 Owls Meet Cosmo, the center's resident owl, and take apart an owl pellet to see what Cosmo eats. Learn all about the many fascinating adaptations of these nocturnal fliers through additional activities. MCPS no school or early release day. 2-3 p.m. Ages 5-over. \$5 RES/\$6 NR.

23 Meercats Does Timon from Disney's "The Lion King" tickle your funnybone? Through a presentation and activities, see if the popular cartoon character resembles the real meercat. 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-6. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

27-29 Women on the Move: Deep Creek Lake Retreat Cost includes accommodations, outfitters' fees, two dinners and a breakfast, transportation and leadership. Register by Feb. 15. 3 p.m. Ages 30-over. \$216 RES/\$270 NR.

SENIORS

All programs are at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, unless noted. Phone: 240-314-8800.

1,2 Woodworking- Introduction 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$40 MEM/\$50 NM. Limited class size.

1,3,8,10,15 Understanding Windows 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$35 MEM/\$42 NM. Registration required.

1,3,8,10 Digital Photography Basics 1-3 p.m. \$45 MEM/\$50 NM. Registration required.

2 February Birthday and Anniversary Party 1:30-3 p.m. FREE.

2 Clarify Computer Concepts 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$6 MEM/\$8 NM. Registration required.

17 Women and Heart Disease 1-2 p.m. FREE.

22 Consumer Questions with Liz Crenshaw 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Register by Feb. 12.

23,Mar.2,9 Quilting-Beginner II Blocks 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$15 MEM/\$20 NM. Register by Feb. 9.

25,Mar.18 Short Story Writing 10:15 a.m.-12 noon. FREE. Register by Feb. 10.

28 Veteran's Benefits 10:30 a.m.-12 noon. FREE. Register by Feb. 2.

28,Mar.2,7,9 Internet 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$28 MEM/\$33 NM. Registration required.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise noted.

5 Board of Appeals, 9:30 a.m., Red Brick Courthouse

8 Human Services Advisory Commission, 7:30 p.m., Dining Room, Senior Center

8 Commission on the Environment, 7:30 p.m.

9 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

9 Cultural Arts Commission, 7 p.m., Cottage at Civic Center Park

15 Rockville Seniors, Inc., 1 p.m., Senior Center

15 Town Center Action Team, 7 p.m., Room 105, Red Brick Courthouse

16 Rockville Housing Enterprises, 6:30 p.m., Lincoln Park Community Center

17 Rockville Sister City Corporation, 7:30 p.m., Board Room, Senior Center

17 Senior Citizens Commission, 10 a.m., Senior Center

17 Historic District Commission, 7 p.m., Senior Center

22 Traffic and Transportation Commission, 7:30 p.m.

23 Human Rights Commission, 7:30 p.m.

23 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

23 Sign Review Board, 4 p.m. (held as needed)

24 Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, 7 p.m., Twinbrook Recreation Center

25 Rockville Economic Development, Inc. Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., 95 Monroe Street (call 301-315-8096)

Rockville Up Close: Rec and Parks Board

Residents help shape Rockville through involvement with neighborhood and civic associations and participation on Mayor and Council-appointed Boards and Commissions. On a regular basis, Rockville Up Close will take an in-depth look at these organizations.

Anyone who has participated in a class or camp or visited a Rockville facility has benefited from the more than 35 combined years of experience of the nine members of the City’s Recreation and Parks Board.

“The long-term commitment of several members is vital to us,” said Chip Boylan, board chair. “However, we also have newer members who bring fresh ideas and perspectives such as our youth member, Ben Solomon.”

Board members are Rockville citizens who volunteer for overlapping two-year terms and are appointed by the Mayor and Council. The board oversees the development of desirable recreation and parks facilities and recommends programs for all ages that suitably reflect the needs of Rockville’s citizens.

The most recent major project the board completed was a review of the cost of City programs. One of their most significant ongoing roles is to consider appeals from citizens in regard to the City’s street tree plan. If a citizen is concerned about the location or type of tree planned for an area near their property, he or she has the option to appeal a planting decision to the board. However, Boylan notes, in recent years appeals have been dwindling because City staff has been successful at



Members of the Recreation and Parks Board (left to right): Chip Boylan, Terry Baker, Kate Savage and Larry Eason take a look at the Senior Center’s fitness room.

resolving resident concerns without the board’s help.

The board meets at a different City facility each month to give the members a first-hand view of the many services offered to citizens. For more information about

these public meetings, read the calendar on page 7 of *Rockville Reports*. To volunteer for a City board or commission, read the list of vacancies on page 5 and contact the City Clerk’s Office at 240-314-8280. [RR](#)

Volunteer Time: Community Partners

There are many ways to share talent, experience, expertise and time with individuals or organizations by volunteering in the City. Each month “Volunteer Time” highlights a different opportunity to promote an interest in giving back to the community.

Senior citizens in some areas of Rockville who find that independent living can become challenging now have an innovative option to remain in their familiar situations before considering alternative housing.

Community Partners, a program focusing on naturally occurring retirement communities (NORCs), and sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, uses a combination of federal funding and compassionate volunteers to help seniors with basic tasks, allowing them to



Participants in the Community Partners program attended the “Let’s Do Lunch” concert and Farmers’ Market in Rockville Town Center last summer.

more comfortably and successfully age in their place of choice.

Last year, the Federation received \$1.2 million in federal funds to help finance programs and services for senior citizens who live in NORCs. The program is constantly seeking volunteers to help make its program a success.

“We create the activities, but we really need the volunteers to make it run,” said

Sam Rosenbaum, Community Partners Volunteer Coordinator for the Federation. “The more volunteers, the more programs we can have.”

Rosenbaum added that the programs are for citizens of all religions and all volunteers are welcome.

He said volunteers are needed as drivers to assist seniors with errands and also to provide help with small household tasks. Volunteers also are needed as book facilitators to coordinate reading groups and help with senior outings.

There are five NORC sites in Montgomery County, three in the vicinity of Rockville Pike.

To find out more about volunteering with the Community Partners program, call Rosenbaum at 301-255-1971 or e-mail sam.rosenbaum@shalomdc.org. The group’s Web site is www.ShalomDC.org. [RR](#)

— Mary Robbins


“Now we can get the information out to citizens more quickly and not interrupt other programs.”

— Doug Breisch, Television & Telecom. Manager

streets to be cleared during times of a “snow emergency.” In addition, the “crawl” feature will be used to alert citizens to facility closings, unexpected changes in service including garbage and recycling pick-ups and safety and security matters.

“To provide this type of information in the past required considerable time and effort, it was slower than we wanted, and sometimes, it required taking other programs off the air,” said Doug Breisch, Rockville’s Television and Telecommunications Manager. “Now we can get the information out to citizens more quickly and not interrupt other programs.”[RR](#)

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL FEBRUARY PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE						
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 Midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
6 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 am	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 am	Preserving the Past	Hi-Tech Patrol	Caregivers: Adult Homeless	Preserving the Past	Hi-Tech Patrol	Caregivers: Adult Homeless	Every 15 Minutes
7:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
8 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
8:30 am	Mayor & Council ▼	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▼
9 am	▼	Living the Dream: MLK Celebration	City Diversity: African American	RU: Ways to Get Involved ▼	Every 15 Minutes	RU: Ways to Get Involved ▼	▼
9:30 am	▼	▼	▼	▼	Living the Dream: MLK Celebration	▼	▼
10 am	▼	▼	RU: Ways to Get Involved ▼	▼	▼	▼	▼
10:30 am	▼	▼	▼	Every 15 Minutes	▼	City Diversity: African American	▼
11 am	Cityline	Caregivers: Adult Homeless	▼	Hi-Tech Patrol	▼	▼	Cityline
11:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
12:30 pm	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
1 pm until meeting ends	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
4 pm	Living the Dream: MLK Celebration	▼	Living the Dream: MLK Celebration	City Diversity: African American	▼	Living the Dream: MLK Celebration	▼
4:30 pm	▼	RU: Ways to Get Involved ▼	▼	▼	RU: Ways to Get Involved ▼	▼	RU: Ways to Get Involved ▼
5 pm	▼	▼	▼	Every 15 Minutes	▼	▼	▼
5:30 pm	▼	▼	▼	Hi-Tech Patrol	▼	▼	▼
6 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
7 pm	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	RU: Ways to Get Involved ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Every 15 Minutes	Mayor & Council ▼	Living the Dream: MLK Celebration
7:30 pm	▼	▼	▼	Living the Dream: MLK Celebration	▼	▼	▼
8:30 pm	▼	▼	City Diversity: African American	▼	▼	▼	▼
9 pm	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	Every 15 Minutes
9:30 pm	▼	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline
10 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
10:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
11 pm	Caregivers: Homeless Adults	City Diversity: African American	Every 15 Minutes	Hi-Tech Patrol	City Diversity: African American	Every 15 Minutes	City Diversity: African American
11:30 pm	Preserving the Past	▼	Hi-Tech Patrol	Every 15 Minutes	▼	Hi-Tech Patrol	▼



Mayor
LARRY GIAMMO

Councilmembers
ROBERT E. DORSEY,
JOHN F. HALL, JR.,
SUSAN R. HOFFMANN,
ANNE M. ROBBINS

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